7. The desirability of leasing out the fish produce to a body of ryots will be taken up for consideration.

8. In regard to the necessity for repairing irrigation works at Government expense, Government had passed orders in 1923 that each case will be considered on its merits.

9. The work of rapairs to Klangad Valiyakulam is already in progress.

10. Public wells are being sunk as funds become available in accordance with the programme recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner.

11. Your representation regarding the opening of a railway station at Anantapuram will be communicated to the Adviser to the Government for Railways for an expression of his views.

12. The question of opening a dispensary at Aykudi is now before the Administrative Board, Medical Services, and their recommendations will shortly be received.

13. You press for the recruitment to the Police and the Excise forces in the taluk from among the natives. I am not quite clear as to what exactly you mean. Is it that the constables and excisemen posted in the taluk should be recruited from Shencotta and Shencotta alone or that the Police Department and the Excise Department as a whole should be recruited from the taluk?

MEMBER: The former.

DEWAN: I can assure you that the people of your taluk are not being excluded. But the people of Shencotta are apparently so prosperous that the rates of pay provided for constables and excise peons are not sufficiently attractive for them to come in.

14. Your representation regarding a Girls' School at Aykudi will be borne in mind.

15. You propose the organisation of a conference of ryots of the Shencotta and Tenkasi taluks. The Government are not convinced that these Boards will serve any useful purpose. I do not agree with you in the view which you have advanced that the Municipality is a limb of the Government created *ad hoc* or lopped off after the particular service for which it exists. A Municipality is an institution in the form of local self-government and as such it must find its own ways and means for starting municipal works.

116. Needs of the Kunnattur taluk.

MR. P. ALEXANDER (*Member, Kunnattur taluk*) urged the need for the re-establishment of a Magistrate's Court at Kunnattur. The Kottarakara Magistrate's Court within whose jurisdiction Kunnattur was placed was 25 miles away from certain portions of Kunnattur taluk and consequently the poor people suffered untold suffering. When there was a Magistrate's court at Kunnattur, the number of cases filed was sufficiently heavy and did not justify its abolition. On account of the difficulties in collecting evidence and the distance of the court, the police were rather slack in taking the necessary steps on a complaint. Further, the Government did not also get their revenue from the fines to an extent of Rs. 1,400 annually. That the people rather subjected themselves to the criminal acts than seek redress in a court situated so far away and so difficult of access could be seen by a comparison of the number of cases on the file of the Magistrate's court at Kunnattur before it was abolished and the number filed in the Kottarakara Magistrate's court from Kunnattur taluk. The distance of the Magistrate s court was a source of difficulty and loss to the Forest Department as well. Circular No. 1 of 1898 of the High Court fixing the period for the disposal of suits further embarassed the people of Kunnattur taluk who had not even convenient means of communication with Kottarakara. Kunnattur was not far behind many other taluks in point of the revenue it yielded. On the whole, it contributed to the coffers of the State not less than one and a quarter lakhs of rupees annually. It was further harassed by tolls. With all that, the people of the taluk did not get their due shafe of benefit at the hands

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of the Government. Considering all these points, Kunnattur should have a Magistrate's court of its own, or in the alternative, at least a Tahsildar-Magistrate or a Munsiff-Magistrate.

There was not even a single road in Pallikkal *pakuthi* though the *pakuthi* yielded a revenue of over Rs. 10,000 annually. There was no access to the extensive grazing ground comprised in Survey Nos. 408/1 and 671/1 ; it was land-locked on all sides, so much so that the Government's object was incapable of being realised. The ryots of the *pakuthi* had to transport tapioca and other produce to the markets only by head-loads. Consequently, the trade in that area could not develop. A road, about 3½ miles in length, from Kadampanad market on the Adur-Sastankotta road to Mayakshi market on the Kayankulam-Adur road across the Pallikkal *pakuthi* would be of immense use to the people of Poruvazhi and Pallikkal *pakuthies* in Kunnatur taluk and of Palamel, Nuranad and other *pakuthies* in Mavelikara taluk. Further, the distance between Kadampanad market and Mayakshi market, *viz*-, 11½ miles would be reduced to 3½ if the proposed road was constructed. The opening of an ordinary cart road in that locality would not also be in any way costly. Only one bridge had to be constructed.

The Munsiff's court in Kunnatur was housed in the old *satram* which was quite unsuited for the purpose. The need for a better building was time and again pressed upon the attention of the Government with little avail. The matter required immediate attention.'

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Alexander, in regard to the re-establishment of the Magistrate's court at Adur, it was after very careful consideration that the Government decided to abolish the court there. Since then, they have received the resolutions passed at a meeting held at Kunnatur, and as a consequence of that, an examination of the question was made. The Government have now gone into the question of the court at Kunnatur and they find that in 1925, the average of cases for the whole taluk was 236 a year. This means that there is not enough work for a Magistrate for a year.

MEMBER : In 1925, it was more than 300.

DEWAN : 236 is the average. Even if it is 300, it does not provide sufficient work for a whole-time Stationary Magistrate. Further, it is also objectionable to take a retrograde step and make the Tahsildar a Magistrate also. I see that you too do not press it strongly. Then I come to your request for a Munsiff–Magistrate. I think that the Munsiff has got enough work to do, and therefore the idea of giving him more work has to be abandoned.

2. With regard to the construction of a road traversing the Pallikkal *pakuthi*, you showed me from a sketch plan that the proposed road has to go through 13 miles. The present road is a round-about one. Judging from your plan, what you propose is excellent, and, therefore, let me recommend it strongly to the people of the locality to take it up under the Ryots' Roads Rules.

3. In the matter of the Munsiff's court building, some time ago I passed Adur. I was stopped there and I talked to a very excited and enthusiastic crowd ; and I found that all that they wanted was that I should look into the foundation that was in existence and was not quite visible. I may mention that an allotment for building the new court building is to be provided in the Budget for 1102.

117. Needs of the Karunagapalli taluk, Group I.

MR. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Member, Karunagapalli taluk, Group I*) said that it was fourteen years since a Munsiff's court was established in the Karunagapalli taluk and yet it had no permanent building. There was considerable difficulty in keeping the court records safe and for the vakils and the parties in suits to assemble. The difficulty was very keenly felt in the rainy season. The construction of a permanent building for the Munsiff's court particularly should be taken up immediately.

The Padanayarkulangara-Quilon and the Padanayarkulangara-Sastankotta roads were recently opened. They were largely used for traffic. Several motor

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